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Excerpts from Interrogation of KIDO, (Marquis) Keichi, 15 February 1946

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Q On June 15 and 18, I notice you had some talks with Mr. TANI of the Asiatic Bureau about the so-called China incident and Manchurian situation. Do you remember what he had to say on those occasions?
A I believe he gave a talk on the progress of the North China incident which I have related a while ago and he informed us that it was settled with out any serious development.

Q (19th) Isn't it true that in those days, what the Government was concerned about was the fear that the Army in the field in North China and Manchuria would, without sanction from the Government move forward into China?

A There was such a worry and if such a situation would arise, the matter of self-defense would come out.

Q Well, isn't it true that these men in the field, such as ITAGAKI and SAKAI were very belligerent and quite active in fomenting trouble in North China and that the Government was very much concerned that they would start some incident so that the armies could sweep in under the guise of self-defense?

A Yes, the Government was worried such a thing would arise.

Q And people that were causing all this trouble for Japan at this particular period were ITAGAKI, SAKAI, ISHIMARA and DOIHARA?

A I am not clear about DOIHARA.

Q But the other three you agree with me on?

A I think so.